

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$5.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$6.00
Three Months, \$1.50
Six Months, \$3.00
Sunday Bee, One Year, \$2.00
Weekly Bee, One Year, \$1.00

OFFICES:
Omaha: The Bee Building,
South Omaha: Single Block, Corner N
and Twenty-fourth Streets.
Council Bluffs: In Pearl Street.
Chicago: Stock Exchange Bldg.
New York: Temple Court.
Washington: 23 Fourteenth Street.

Communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed to The Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS.
Business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Nebraska. Drafts, checks, express and postage money orders may be paid to the order of the company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.
State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee, printed during the month of December, 1898, was as follows:

1. Total	24,077	17.	23,737
2. Paid in advance	14,151	18.	24,700
3. On account	24,084	19.	23,584
4. Carriage	24,970	20.	23,803
5. Carriage	24,223	21.	23,592
6. Carriage	24,846	22.	23,611
7. Carriage	24,825	23.	23,470
8. Carriage	25,172	24.	23,738
9. Carriage	23,930	25.	23,200
10. Carriage	24,193	26.	23,320
11. Carriage	24,181	27.	23,724
12. Carriage	24,156	28.	23,416
13. Carriage	24,332	29.	23,504
14. Carriage	24,263	30.	23,407
15. Carriage	24,325	31.	23,700
16. Carriage	25,821		
Total			740,000
Less unsold and returned copies			15,307
Net total sales			720,693
Net daily average			23,571

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 31st day of December, 1898,
N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.
(Seal.)

Where the carrier is there the vultures gather.

It is too soon to break over your good resolutions yet.

And now it is said the new pottery trust has started business without a jar.

When the bell tolls at high noon the Nebraska legislature will begin to draw \$800 a day and incidentals.

Burglars complain there were not so many open houses in Omaha New Year's day as there were last summer.

Emperor William has the grip and not even the low majesty law is able to suppress the unwelcome intruder.

Governor Holcomb has one more shot to fire and when the 25,000-word message lands on the legislators the floor of the capitol building is liable to sag.

Superintendent of the oil room is one of the officers the legislature can safely dispense with. In past sessions it has been a most expensive one for the people.

It is now Governor Roosevelt. If there is still a lingering doubt in the minds of any New Yorkers as to where his residence is, that doubt will soon be dispelled.

Spanish officers have not lost the faculty of multiple vision. General Rios reports to Madrid 7,000 American troops at Hilo. General Miller doubtless wishes the report were true.

The prophets of evil who anticipated riots and rivers of blood in Havana when Spanish sovereignty ceased have not even the slightest bawl on which to base a boast. "I told you so."

The thermometer is not behaving itself very well for the opening of a new year. Down at Havana it is having a high old time and up in this section it is getting down lower and lower every day.

One of the problems Governor Poynter will be called upon to solve is how to satisfy the aspirations of a score or more lawyers ambitious for judgeships, with only two places in prospect at his disposal.

Even the empress of China starts in with good resolves for the new year by calling attention to the reform edicts promulgated some time ago and notifying the viceroys that they must be enforced. There is no lack of reform edicts in the Flowery Kingdom, but the promises seldom reach maturity.

The Spanish evidently have unlimited confidence in the capacity of the Americans. They had fully as many soldiers in the Philippines as the United States has, though many of them are prisoners of war. It is only a week since the Americans agreed to secure their release from their Filipino captors, yet the Spanish profess surprise that the work has not already been accomplished.

We must keep ever vividly before us the usefulness of a party is strictly limited by its usefulness to the state and that in the long run he serves his party best who helps to make it instantly responsive to every need of the people and to the highest demands of that spirit which tends to drive us onward and upward—Governor Roosevelt's inaugural.

There are rebels and rebels. The men who took up arms against the United States in 1861-65 were rebels, but the Indians who resisted the murderous march of civilization were never classed as rebels. In their relation to their Spanish oppressors the Filipinos are rebels, but in fighting for their unalienable right to govern themselves without the aid or consent of the United States they are freemen, fighting for the principles embodied in the immortal declaration of American independence.

THE CRISIS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The latest address from the Philippines show it to be the intention of the Filipino army at Hilo to resist American occupation of that city and in view of the fact that General Miller refused requests for delay and proceeded with operations for the capture of Hilo, it is more than probable that fighting has taken place. The American force is very largely outnumbered by the Filipinos and the latter also have the advantage of fortifications, so that if an engagement has taken place it would not be surprising to learn that our army was repulsed, or at least had failed in the attempt to capture the city. Such an outcome of our first movement against the native forces would be peculiarly unfortunate, since it could hardly fail to have the effect to give them confidence for further resistance. In any event the reported situation at Hilo indicates that a crisis has been reached in the Philippines and that we may expect that to become at once the theater of highly interesting events. It appears evident that Aguinaldo and his associates will be compelled to declare their purpose in regard to American occupation and it seems highly probable that they will decide to make resistance to it unless satisfactory concessions are offered by this government. The fact of General Otis having asked for instructions, although it is intimated that these are not of a military nature, is still significant of the acuteness of the situation. Subjugation of the Filipinos by military power seems to be the alternative presented to the United States in order to obtain control of the archipelago. It may be a costly task in both life and treasure.

DAWES ON THE CURRENCY.

The speech of the controller of the currency, Hon. Charles G. Dawes, before the Commercial club of Chicago, will not please the extreme currency reformers any better than did his annual report, in which were pointed out some of the defects in the plans of currency revision. Comptroller Dawes earnestly advocates the adoption of President McKinley's recommendation, that when greenbacks are redeemed in gold they shall be paid out again only in exchange for gold. He says of this plan that under it the government can protect properly its outstanding currency liabilities and break the endless chain without contracting the currency or seeking assistance from private corporations in meeting its obligations of gold redemption. The comptroller urges that before the consideration of any of the banking bills upon which there is such diversity and conflict of both expert and popular opinion, this plan, practical and simple solution of the governmental currency situation suggested by the president should pass into law. "To this plan," said Mr. Dawes, "I am fully comprehended by the great body of our citizens, all those in favor of currency reform should give their unqualified and loyal support. To press the consideration of other proposed remedies at this time will prove a hindrance and obstruction to the adoption of the recommendation, which is plainly a step in advance. After this recommendation is enacted into law those who have what seems to them a more complete remedy can then present it for consideration."

It is hardly to be expected that the currency reformers generally will give heed to this judicious counsel. Perhaps some of them approve the president's recommendation and are willing that it should pass into law, but most of them will be satisfied with no legislation that does not provide for the ultimate permanent retirement of the greenbacks. This is the chief purpose in their plan for reforming the currency and nothing short of this will be acceptable to them. To eliminate the legal tender notes and to give the banks a monopoly of the paper currency of the country is what they aim to accomplish and as the adoption of the president's recommendation would render the attainment of this purpose more difficult the reformers are not likely to favor its adoption. Their greatest reliance is upon the "endless chain" and as this would be swept away under the operation of the president's plan the reformers will not be found supporting that plan. Its very simplicity is enough to incur for its disfavor and instead of accepting this plan, practical and simple solution of the governmental currency situation they will go on agitating a policy which is both impracticable and unpopular—a policy which no political party will dare commit itself to.

Comptroller Dawes is correct in the view that the people and the business interests of the country demand that whatever changes are made in the currency system should be simple and easily understood. They are not in favor of complicated or radical changes. They desire stability in the currency system and that there shall be no unnecessary tinkering with it. If President McKinley knows the feeling of the country in this respect—and he is probably as careful to inform himself in regard to public sentiment on this question as on others—he will give no serious consideration to the appeal of the currency reformers for an extra session of the Fifty-sixth congress to consider the currency question.

A PLEA FOR POOLING.

The receivers of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad have represented to the Interstate Commerce commission that the roads north of the Ohio river and east of the Mississippi are carrying the greater part of their interstate traffic at less than the published rates, that business is demoralized because of reckless competition among rival lines and that unjust discriminations are made against individuals, localities and particular classes of freight. It is pointed out that these conditions show that the railroads are unable to protect themselves against one another and that safety for them and their stockholders is to be gained only by the enactment of a law which, under the direction of the interstate commission, will enable the companies to pool their traffic and avoid rate wars.

Undoubtedly the representations of the Baltimore & Ohio receivers are well

founded. There is no question that rate cutting and discrimination are being all the time practiced by the railroads, as has been the case for years. A New York paper remarks that the decision of the United States supreme court which forced the dissolution of the Joint Traffic association, on the ground that it was an illegal combination, was the beginning of the whole trouble. This is erroneous. There was rate-cutting during the existence of that association, as one of its most prominent members declared before the decision of the supreme court was rendered. Perhaps it was not so general before that decision as since, but there is no doubt that it was practiced to a greater or less extent. The roads having a membership in that association were not all faithful to the agreement, nor have the railroads of the country faithfully observed any traffic agreement entered into in recent years.

Our New York contemporary urges that "the only remedy for this wretched state of affairs is a pooling law by which the companies will be empowered to pool their traffic under certain definite restrictions and prevent the arbitrary slashing of rates by any line which becomes a party to the agreement." Perhaps such a law would have the desired effect, but there are railroad managers who do not hold this view, but on the contrary assert the opinion that there would be violations of a pooling law just as there are of the interstate commerce act and experience gives warrant for this belief. The fact is that if railway managers would obey the law and be honest among themselves there would be no rate-cutting and discrimination. But they do not respect the law and they will not live up to their mutual agreements. It is questionable whether they would do better under legalized pooling.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH KANSAS?

In 1888 Kansas gave Benjamin Harrison, republican candidate for president, a plurality of 80,159 over Grover Cleveland, democrat, and a majority of 35,592 over all. In 1896 Bryan carried Kansas by 13,500 plurality over McKinley and 10,069 majority over all.

What was the matter with Kansas? Superficial observers have told us that it was drouth calamity howlers and the free silver craze. Those who know the true cause of the revolt in Kansas that culminated in the rise and triumph of populism trace the uprising back to popular resentment of the pernicious interference of corporations in Kansas politics, the subservience of the dominant party to the dictation of railroad managers and sacrifice of public interests to the interests of corporate greed. Drouths and general business depression were only incidents that helped to fan the embers of popular discontent and furnished demagogues and calamity howlers with fuel for the political prairie fire that swept Kansas as it did Nebraska. This and the cowardly surrender on the money question by eminent Kansas republicans who sought thus to stem the rising wrath against the encroachments and extortions of public carriers contributed to the disaster that overwhelmed Kansas republicans.

The reaction that followed good crops and better times and the blunders and failures of the populists last fall braced Kansas republicans up to the fighting point and with a clean ticket and a platform pledging better government they redeemed the state.

But there are bourns beyond which seem never to learn anything by experience in the republican party of Kansas as well as of Nebraska and other populist strongholds. While recognizing the just grievances of the producers and foolishly set themselves against every reform or measure that emanates from political opponents. Thus they stumble into the ditch dug for them.

The recent special session of the Kansas legislature affords a striking illustration. To retrieve the mistake that had cost them the state the Kansas populists had framed a bill that creates a railroad court empowered to hear and determine complaints arising from excessive tolls and arbitrary discrimination against shippers and localities. Instead of joining with the populists in perfecting a measure clearly demanded by the great body of Kansas farmers and shippers they arrayed themselves against the bill and vainly sought to mutilate or defeat it. Inasmuch as the representatives of the railroads had served notice that they would contest the constitutionality of the act in the courts it was simply stupid to place the republican party in the false attitude of a corporation machine.

There certainly ought to be enough intelligence among Kansas republicans to see that persistence in such a course would again alienate the producers who have rejoined their ranks and repel others disposed to identify themselves with the party of progress and prosperity.

I do solemnly swear that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the state of Nebraska and will faithfully discharge the duties of representative (or senator) according to the best of my ability and that at the election to fill said office I have not improperly influenced in any way the vote of any elector and have not accepted nor will I accept or receive, directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing from any corporation, company or person or any promise of office for any official act, for any vote I may give or withhold on any bill, resolution or appropriation. This is the solemn oath which every member of the legislature will take this day before entering upon the duties of his office and is expected to live up to without mental reservation.

An All-Round Hammer.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The advance in corn is a welcome event to farmers and handsomely rounds out a year of prosperity. Grain is maize, in the ear and in the by-products.

A Lesson and a Warning.

Boston Globe.

Here's a warning and a lesson. Ten failures of firms dealing in holiday goods are

reported in New York and not one of them advertised in papers read by the people.

Preaching and Performance.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.
A democratic orator in the city of St. Louis, Mo., has been elected to the office of mayor. He is a man of the people and is expected to be a good mayor.

Peace Dreams and Preparation.

In her dream of white-winged peace softly descending angel-wise upon the world, Russia does not lose sight of the fact that the goddess Bellona has not yet gone out of business, nor that her ready claret may be poured any day in her prompt and customary manner. While Russia is about to appear in the international peace convention which she has summoned and in which she will be the chief figure, she does not lose sight of the necessity in these troubled days for naval reinforcement, and has just given out an order for the construction of ten new torpedo boats at Odessa.

Stripping the Forests.

The American Newspaper Publishers' association in appealing to the Anglo-American commission to put paper and pulp on the free list declares that the demands of the pulp trade strip the timber from 625 square miles of territory annually. Such an extent of havoc if wrought by forest fires would arouse all the timber states to action. What is the good of one or two pulp arbor days in a year, when the Wood Pulp trust has all seasons for its own?

Regenerating a City.

Philadelphia Press.
The sanitary redemption of Santiago is now a reality for American civilization that its capture. In the work of Governor Wood, particularly in the street cleaning policy, one sees the same high spirit that distinguished Colonel Warren's efforts in this country. Unsanitary dirt for centuries has been a blot on the face of the city. It is a greater revolution than the ousting of the Spaniards. It is at results of this kind the anti-expansionists should look instead of misquoting the fathers or abusing the administration of today. The world is moved by men and deeds, not moonshine.

Checking Hasty Marriages.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.
Constitutional delays in many quarters over a recent decision by the attorney general of Canada that a marriage ceremony performed in Canada by an American minister is illegal. Not a few marriages have been thus solemnized between American summer visitors to the Dominion, and the delay is a greater revolution than the ousting of the Spaniards. It is at results of this kind the anti-expansionists should look instead of misquoting the fathers or abusing the administration of today. The world is moved by men and deeds, not moonshine.

The Warning Sugar Grants.

Cincinnati Enquirer.
The mass of people who consume sugar take but little interest in the fight raging between the sugar kings and trusts. The advances and cuts in prices go by eightths and sixteenths. Fractions too small to show in retail prices, but they mean a great deal to the refiners. Yet, if the fight means consolidation, the advance may be noticeable enough to have a meaning, and, on the other hand, if the price is put up, it means new refineries to fight.

COST OF THE WAR.

A Washington estimate puts the cost of the war at \$250,000,000, reckoning up to the end of the present fiscal year, which will end on June 30, 1899. The estimate covers the expenditures already made and those which are in prospect for six months to come. It does not, however, include the indemnity of \$20,000,000 to be paid to Spain for the cession of the Philippines, nor does it make any allowance for the expenditures on fortifications which may be required to put our new possessions in a condition of immediate defense. With the exclusion of these items the estimate looks low. We fancy that when a full and fair account is made up at the end of the fiscal year the cost of the war will be found a great deal closer to \$300,000,000 than \$250,000,000.

FAR-FETCHED COMPARISONS.

Abundant of Liking the Louisiana Purchase to the Philippines.
Springfield (Mass.) Republican.
The attempt to liken the acquisition of the territory of Louisiana to the annexation of an Asiatic archipelago is the absurdity in the world. The present scheme of annexation goes 7,000 miles from the ocean boundaries of the republic to take over tropical territory comparatively densely populated with many races, tribes and clans, and of different languages, several colors and little to no advancement from a primal state of savagery. Jefferson's scheme of annexation, on the contrary, embraced contiguous and only sparsely settled territory, which controlled a great waterway, draining a large part of the territory then included in the domain of the United States.

ENLARGING THE ARMY.

Unjustifiable Increase Proposed by Pending Bills.
Review.
One of the principal questions that has been pressed upon the attention of Congress by the president's message, the recommendation of the secretary of war and the house committee on military affairs, is that of the provision for a larger regular army. It is, of course, a hardship to keep under arms for a single day longer than is necessary any of the men who enlisted at the outbreak of the war on patriotic grounds and the understanding that when the war was over they should receive honorable discharge. It is the opinion of the authorities that congress should give the government permission to recruit a regular army up to the limit of a hundred thousand men, about half of whom would be needed for duty in Cuba, while the other half would be divided more or less evenly between the United States and the Philippines. But we certainly ought not to need an army in Cuba, except for a very short time. The maintenance of a peace there should be the near future be entrusted to a well-organized native constabulary, distributed and operated very much upon the plan of the Royal Irish Constabulary that keeps the peace of another great island. Nor will the American people believe it right or necessary that we should maintain an army of Americans in the Philippines, except for temporary purposes. The existing emergency in the West Indies and in the Philippines may be regarded from the military point of view as a passing phase of the war period. As soon as that emergency is passed we ought to get along with a regular army of not to exceed 50,000 men. We must provide, of course, for the education of a much larger number of officers, and should greatly improve the militia system. The best way to promote the defense of this country lies in the maintenance of an efficient navy. Let the army expenditures be held down to the strictest point and let the naval expenditures be generous.

FREE VOICE TO LEGISLATURE.

Auburn Granger (pop.): The Board of Transportation has cost the state of Nebraska \$111,415.43 directly, and how much it has cost the people of the state indirectly the Lord only knows, and if it has ever been of any benefit to the state there are but few who have been able to see where the benefits came in.

Plattsmouth Journal (pop.): If the coming legislature desires to reduce taxation, and at the same time leave the state government unimpaired, let it repeal the law giving bonuses to state and county fairs. Such a move will meet with the approval of every person in the state outside of the rings which fatten off these annual distributions of the people's money.

Neligh Leader (rep.): The first duty of the Nebraska legislature should be the reduction of the number of the senate and house employees compared with two years ago. One-half the number is sufficient. Every needless expense should be cut off, but the state is entitled to good care, yet the appropriations need not be lavish. Every necessary want should be supplied, and no more.

Ord Quiz (rep.): The populist state officials propose to have some campaign thunder for next year. The recommendations they have made for appropriations amount to \$200,000 more than last year. If the republican legislature will appropriate the increased sum the populist officials will have the fun of spending it and then when the campaign opens they will tell how extravagant the republican legislature has been.

Auburn Post (rep.): Our coming legislature does not do the season of the year, but of continual adjournment. The Lincoln hotels and boarding houses are the only ones benefited by a long session and the coming legislature should set a precedent by a short business session. There are more laws now on our statutes than can be enforced or understood. Let us digest what we have before we get many more.

Sidney Postcard: The coming legislature should overhaul our present law pertaining to the sale of real estate for taxes. As our laws are few men care to invest in delinquent tax titles, consequently those who do not choose to pay their taxes virtually go to a debt and a double and often a treble burden falls upon those who do pay their taxes. This has a tendency to make taxpayers avoid assessments and those who are little pay nothing.

West Point Republican: The record which will be made by the state legislature about to convene will be carefully scrutinized with a microscope by the populist leaders, and it behooves the majority, if they have their party's welfare at heart, to top off all unneeded expenditures, useless committees and to make the session as brief as possible. The republicans never had a better opportunity to refute the campaign charges of the populists than will be presented to them this winter. It is only by the acts of the majority in the legislature that the party will be judged. The republican party in Nebraska is, figuratively, being placed in the balance and if found wanting this winter political progress will be found impossible.

Ashtand Gazette (rep.): The fusionists are now asking the republican legislature to appropriate about \$200,000 to make up for deficiencies in the expense of running the various state institutions. This is some of the money that the populists so boastfully "saved" during the late campaign. Inasmuch as the other allows are to have the spending of the money, it is exceedingly probable that the republican legislators will go somewhat in the "saving" business themselves. If they should do otherwise, the same populists who are asking to have their deficiencies made good would need up on the stump and tell how extravagant the republican legislature had been and what immaculate economists the populists were. Let the "saving" business go right on. Republicans never will have a better opportunity to get in fashion.

A RURAL SPARKING.

Chicago Post: "Are you alone?" he asked. "Entirely so," she replied, feeling that at last the time had come. "You may speak without danger of being overheard."

"Would you mind having the phonograph removed from the room?" he said at last. "It looks to me as if it were loaded for a record."

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should not be permitted to indulge in the miserable ambitions that had made the old world a hell and frustrated the hopes of humanity."

And yet the little hot-pots of the jingo end of the radical democracy have the presumption to attempt to drag over this champion of peace and popular government and freedom from old world ambitions and entanglements to the support of a reckless policy of conquest and exaltation of the military power.

If the acquisition of the Philippines is "interesting to our quiet" and great freedom from foreign embroilments, Jefferson might be fairly claimed as an annexationist of the present day. But the truth of the matter is that Philippines annexation is placed by its advocates on exactly contrary grounds, and very properly so.

STATE MILITIA SERVICE.

Call for a National Convention to Consider the Subject.
Philadelphia Times.
Governor Bloxham of Florida has issued a circular letter an executive of the state proposing a national convention to assemble at Tampa, Florida, on the 8th of February next, for discussing the methods of placing state troops on the most effective footing. All questions relating to arms, equipment, tactics, clothing, food and transportation are to be discussed by experts, as well as the subject of camp sites, sanitation and all precautionary measures that modern science can suggest to insure the comfort and health of troops.

There should be a very general and hearty response to this call from Governor Bloxham. It is the season of the year when many northern people are visiting Florida and other southern sections and there is no better place for such a convention than Tampa. Railway facilities are excellent and accommodations are all that any could wish. Our laws now on our statutes that the fact that much as we have improved our militia system in most of the states our national guard was utterly unfitted for the field. Pennsylvania stood in the forefront in the organization and training of her national guard, and yet ours was wholly unfitted for active service in an insubordinate climate. Neither officers nor men were fitted to such an emergency, and the result was great suffering and the sacrifice of many lives simply for want of a thoroughly organized military system.

It is idle to say that we shall not have war soon again. We may or may not; most likely not, but henceforth nearly or quite all the states of the union will maintain a militia organization and it will cost no more to make it as perfect as possible than it would to keep it on a state of loose discipline and unneeded military duty. It is a mere question between a thorough military system and dress parade for the entertainment of the friends and families of the soldiers.

War is a fearful condition when it presents itself, and if we are to have militia organizations at all they could just as well be fully prepared for war as to be a matter of mere ornament and amusement. In view of the fearful sacrifices recently suffered by the imperfections of our militia system, the call of Governor Bloxham is one that should enlist the interest and attention of all connected with our militia organizations and we sincerely hope that there will be a full convention of able, earnest men to consider the subject at Tampa on the 8th of February.

THE PHILIPPINE PROBLEM.

Springfield Republican: It is reported that Admiral Dewey has called for a "first-class statesman" to be stationed at Manila. Such a post would be a very important one, just now that the squadron under Dewey or an army corps. A little diplomacy is needed.

Philadelphia Times: The dispatch of General Lawton to the Philippines looks like business